

Groundwater Substitution

Issue No. 13 - DRAFT Diesel-Powered Groundwater Pumps

Background

The goal for 2010 is to comply with California statutes and Air Resources Board regulations regarding exhaust emissions from stationary agricultural diesel sources. Also, to allow participation of diesel sources in a manner that ensures mitigation measures proposed by environmental requirements on water transfers are practical.

Recommendation for 2010

- Determine if water transfers must comply with federal and state laws and regulations regarding exhaust emissions from stationary agricultural diesel sources.
- If these laws apply, then:
 - Meet with the following agencies to identify their air quality concerns associated with groundwater substitution transfers in 2010:
 - Federal EPA
 - Air Resources Board
 - Colusa County APCD
 - Feather River AQMD
 - Sacramento Metro AQMD
 - Glenn County APCD
 - Determine which diesel engines can be used in 2010 to pump groundwater
 - Identify exhaust constituents of concern
 - Determine if air quality mitigation credits are available for sellers pumping groundwater with diesel sources.
 - Determine if credits from crop idling transfers can be applied to groundwater substitution transfers.
 - Determine if sellers can use credits gained from reducing rice burning to mitigate for use of diesel engine.

Future Discussions for the Long-Term Program

- Continue to work with regulatory agencies to understand laws that apply to diesel engines used to pump groundwater.
- Publicize requirements with potential water transfer sellers